Message

From: Contreras, Peter [Contreras.Peter@epa.gov]

Sent: 3/20/2020 5:37:04 PM

To: Barber, Anthony [Barber.Anthony@epa.gov]; Martinson, Mathew [martinson.mathew@epa.gov]; Kenknight, Jeff

[Kenknight.Jeff@epa.gov]; Steiner-Riley, Cara [Steiner-Riley.Cara@epa.gov]; Thurmon, Clarke [Thurmon.Clarke@epa.gov]; Peak, Nicholas [Peak.Nicholas@epa.gov]; Edmondson, Lucy

[Edmondson.Lucy@epa.gov]

Subject: RE: LUBGWMA/Nitrates

Tony, no changes from me on your summary. I will take a first cut at drafting a letter with input from Clarke and hope to have something to share with this group next week & check in with RA/DRA, after which we can schedule the follow up calls with states as they requested, prior sending the letter.

Thanks,

Peter



Peter Contreras, Chief
Field, Data & Drinking Water Enforcement Section
Water Enforcement & Field Branch (20C-04)
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
Seattle, WA (206) 553-6708

From: Barber, Anthony <Barber.Anthony@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2020 4:00 PM

To: Martinson, Mathew <martinson.mathew@epa.gov>; Contreras, Peter <Contreras.Peter@epa.gov>; Kenknight, Jeff

<Kenknight.Jeff@epa.gov>; Steiner-Riley, Cara <Steiner-Riley.Cara@epa.gov>; Thurmon, Clarke

<Thurmon.Clarke@epa.gov>; Peak, Nicholas <Peak.Nicholas@epa.gov>; Edmondson, Lucy <Edmondson.Lucy@epa.gov>

Subject: LUBGWMA/Nitrates

This is to follow up to our management-level call with Oregon state agencies yesterday regarding nitrates concerns in the Lower Umatilla Basin GWMA.

I'm asking you to review the summary below, which I prepared with an update email to Chris, Michelle, Ed, and Dan in mind. After any changes from feedback from you I will send it to them and copy all of you.

The following were on the call:

EPA: Anthony Barber, Jeff Kenknight, Peter Contreras, Nick Peak, Clark Thurmon

ODA: Stephanie Page, Marganne Allen

ODEQ: Justin Green, Linda Hayes-Gorman, David Anderson

OHA: Gabriella Goldfarb, David Emme

We discussed the petition EPA received in January and our concerns and evaluation of the conditions within the LUBGWMA, especially focusing on whether an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health exists. We verbally went through a list of draft questions with the state agencies, the answer to which will help us close information gaps for our evaluation.

The discussion went well, and each agency will be providing an individual point of contact we can work with to fine tune the requested data and information we need and help coordinate the agencies responses to our request. We plan to work with each of those contacts over the next several days to ensure we are on target for what we are asking. The interest here is to ensure that we are asking for the most helpful information in the most efficient and intelligible manner, and that we aren't missing things. Once that coordination has been accomplished, we will draft a letter to each agency to request the information in writing (signed by ECAD Director or RA?). Once the letter is drafted, we plan to convene an update briefing for the RA.

It is worth noting that we learned that 1) the planned April 2^{nd} LUBGWMA meeting where we were going to have Eric Winiecki present has now been canceled due to COVID-19 concerns, and 2) the Draft 2^{nd} LUBGWMA Action Plan is now out for a 60-day public comment period through May 8^{th} . DEQ will have 30 days after that to act on the plan.

Anthony L. Barber, PE Director, Oregon Operations Office US EPA Region 10 805 SW Broadway, Suite 500 Portland, OR 97205

503-326-6890 (phone) 503-326-3399 (fax) barber.amhony@epa.gov